

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Robert Satcher, Jr.

PERSON

Satcher, Robert Lee, Jr., 1965-

Alternative Names: Dr. Robert Satcher, Jr.; Bobby

Life Dates: September 22, 1965-

Place of Birth: Hampton, Virginia, USA

Residence: Bellaire, TX

Work: Houston, TX

Occupations: Orthopedic Surgeon; Chemical Engineer; Astronaut

Biographical Note

Orthopaedic surgeon, chemical engineer and astronaut Robert Lee Satcher, Jr. was born on September 22, 1965 in Hampton, Virginia to Robert and Marian Satcher. Satcher graduated from Denmark-Olar High School in Denmark, South Carolina, in 1982. He received his B.S. degree in chemical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1986; his Ph.D. degree in chemical engineering from MIT in 1993; and his M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School in 1994. Satcher completed his postdoctoral research fellowships at MIT in 1994 and University of California, Berkeley in 1998; internship and residency in orthopaedic surgery at the University of California, San Francisco in 2000; and a fellowship in musculoskeletal oncology at the University of Florida in 2001.

From 2001 to 2008, Satcher served as an assistant professor at The Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University, in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. He was also an assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery at the Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois from 2001 to 2008, and served as a professor at the Institute for Bionanotechnology in Medicine at Northwestern University Medical Center. In addition, Satcher was an attending physician of orthopaedic oncology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital - Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center from 2001 to 2008; and served as an assistant professor of biomedical engineering at Northwestern University from 2002 to 2008.

Satcher joined NASA in 2004. In 2009, he became the first orthopaedic surgeon in space during NASA's STS-129 mission, where he was a mission specialist and performed two spacewalks. Satcher left NASA in September 2011, and serves as a

surgical oncologist and assistant professor at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Satcher's professional organizations include the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Musculoskeletal Tumor Society, American Academy of Cancer Research, Connective Tissue Oncology Society, National Medical Association, Society of Black Academic Surgeons, Doctors United in Medical Missions, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, American Telemedicine Association, Orthopaedic Research Society, MIT Alumni Association, Black Alumni at MIT and Harvard Alumni Association. In addition, he co-founded the eHealth Research Institute, is a user panel member of the National Space Biomedical Research Institute, and serves on the boards of CSTEM and Teach for America.

Satcher has been active in numerous community organizations, including Big Brother for Youth at Risk Counseling Program, Department of Corrections, San Francisco, California; Tutor for Black Student's Union Tutorial Program, MIT; National Society of Black Engineers; American Institute of Chemical Engineering; Supervising Adult for Cub Scout Camp for Boys, Nashville, Tennessee; Open Airways Tutor (asthma awareness); Proctor for Freshman Dormitory at Harvard University; Lay Episcopal Minister at St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, Chicago, Illinois and at St. James Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas. Satcher has also completed medical missions for outreach care to underserved areas in Nicaragua, Venezuela, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Gabon.

Satcher was a National Merit Scholar, and received the Monsanto Award and the Albert G. Hill Award from MIT, fellowships from both the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and UNCF/Merck Research department, and is a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. He has been awarded two honorary doctorates of science, and was selected as a finalist in Tuskegee University's presidency search in 2010.

Robert Satcher, Jr. was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 3, 2014.

Related Entries

Denmark-Olar High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

High School Diploma

Massachusetts Institute of Technology [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Bachelor of Science

Massachusetts Institute of Technology [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Doctor of Philosophy

Harvard [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Medical Degree

Northwestern Memorial Hospital [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2001 to 2008]

Attending Physician

Northwestern University [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2001 to 2008]

Professor

Northwestern University [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2002 to 2008]

Assistant Professor

Northwestern University [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2004 to ?]

Professor

NASA Johnson Space Center [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2004 to 2011]

Mission Specialist Astronaut

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2007 to 2011]

Clinical Assistant Professor

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2011 to ?]

Assistant Professor

ConvergeUS [MEMBEROf]
[from 2012 to ?]

Board Member

Teach for America [MEMBEROf]
[from 2012 to ?]

Board Member

CSTEM - Communication, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
[MEMBEROf]
[from 2012 to ?]

Board Member

National Space Biomedical Research Institute [MEMBEROf]
[from 2013 to ?]

User Panel Member

Institute of Medicine [MEMBEROf]
[from 2013 to ?]

Member

